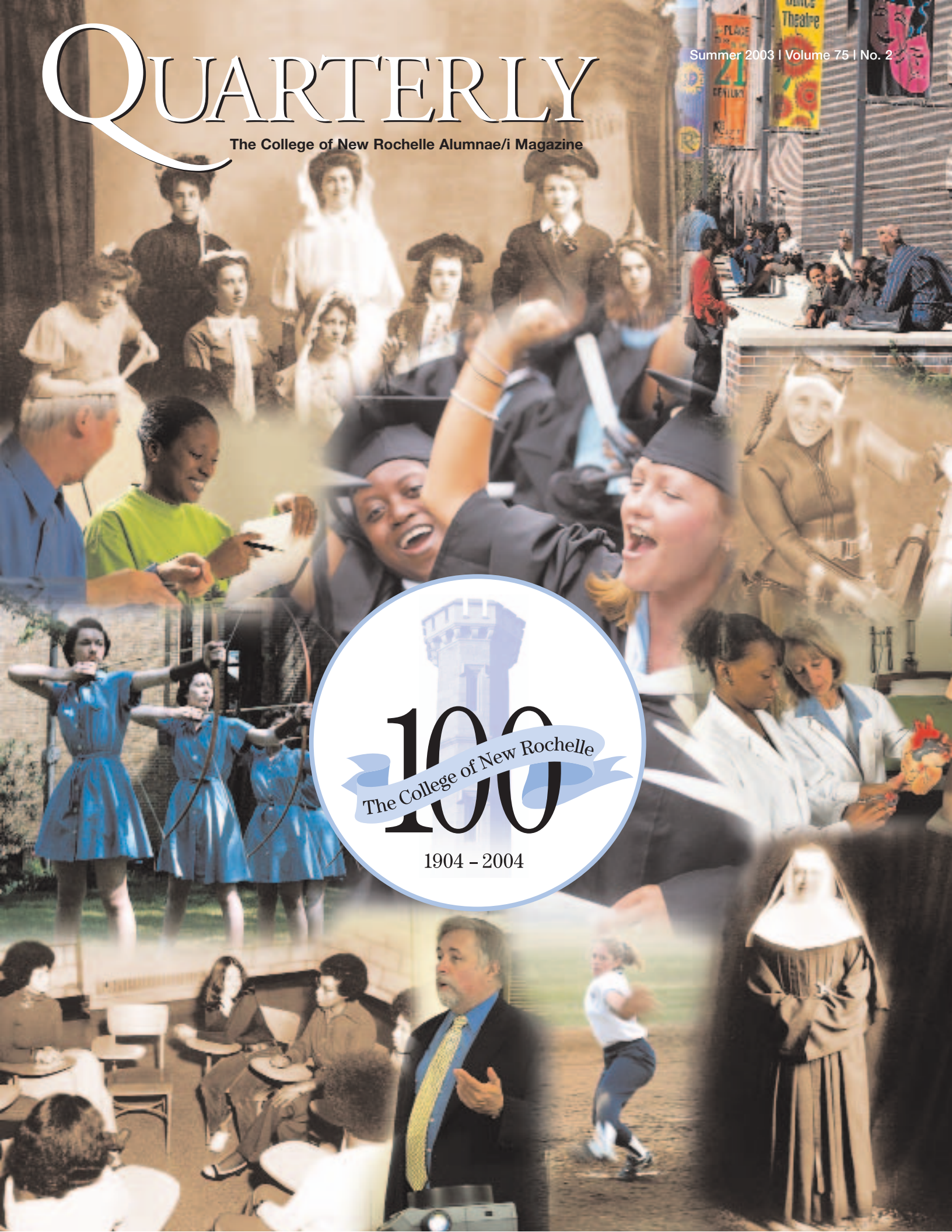


QUARTERLY

The College of New Rochelle Alumnae/i Magazine

Summer 2003 | Volume 75 | No. 2





Centennial Year Celebrations!

► Opening Liturgy and Reception

Date: September 14, 2003

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Holy Family Chapel

Presider: Most Reverend Joseph Pittau, S.J.

Secretary, Congregation for Catholic Education

► Castle Gallery Opening and Reception

Ursuline Artists: Expressing the Creative Vision

Time: 2:00 p.m.

► Opening Convocation and Reception

Date: September 15, 2003

Time: 4:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATES! SAVE THE DATES! SAVE THE DATES!

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Cover Photos:
Courtesy of The
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Rochelle archives.



WRITING THE HISTORY OF
The College of New Rochelle

DR. JAMES T. SCHLEIFER, DEAN OF GILL LIBRARY,
SPOKE ON WRITING A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF
NEW ROCHELLE DURING ALUMNAE/I COLLEGE
WEEKEND IN JUNE. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM HIS INFORMATIVE ADDRESS.

Let me begin by describing the College. Picture a women's college, in fact the first Catholic women's college in the State of New York, an institution clustered primarily around Leland Castle, the landmark building at the center of the campus, but a college with extension sites in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, among other places. At these extension sites, courses are offered for working adults, mostly women, but including some men. The courses are given in the late afternoons and evenings (and even on Saturday mornings) so that adult students can continue to work and do not have to leave their jobs in order to pursue a college degree. The curriculum at these sites focuses on the liberal arts, includes both regular courses and independent study. When students have completed the necessary courses, they receive a B.A. degree from the College. The College is known and praised, especially in the New York City area, for its innovative efforts to provide opportunities for higher education both to young women of traditional college age and to professionals who are already employed but who want an advanced degree.

I should add that the institution I am describing, though inspired by Ursulines and committed to the tradition of Ursuline education, welcomes students of any religious faith, and has a lay Board of Trustees, a male President, and a faculty which is predominately composed of lay men and women.

If you haven't already guessed, what I am portraying is the College of Saint Angela, which opened in September 1904, and whose extension program was announced as early as November 1904 and described repeatedly in early catalogues from 1906 onward. Note that the institution I have just depicted predates even the name of The College of New Rochelle, a name not adopted until 1910.

A full, scholarly history

I am now writing a centennial history of this College. It will not be, however, a detailed, encyclopedic work. That is not my kind of history. I was trained as an American intellectual historian, a student of ideas, broad themes and cultural trends. So what I plan to write is, of course, a well-written, readable book, but one that is primarily analytical and thematic. I'm attracted to lines of development, to repeating patterns, to underlying themes, to persistent issues. Most of all, I envision a history that will raise questions. The facts and the answers (where possible) are fine; but the questions are more fascinating.

Where to begin?

What are some of these questions? Why is this story worth telling? I am wondering what has remained constant or almost constant over the years. Is it the mission of education for women? Of access to education for those left behind or ignored by the larger society? Of commitment to the liberal arts? Of education of the whole person? Of education for service, especially for training teachers? And what are the key changes? What is profoundly different now from twenty, or fifty, or eighty years ago?

On facing page: CNR cheerleaders, as they appeared in a 1925 issue of Annales.

And how does the Ursuline tradition shape and define the story? A full history of The College of New Rochelle must begin with a brief retelling of the history of Angela Merici and her Company of Saint Ursula.

In 1535, twenty-eight women gathered in the Church of St. Afra in Brescia, Italy, and signed their names in the Book of the Company; this signing was a token of their pledge to continue to work together under the leadership and inspiration of Angela Merici, a remarkable woman who was then nearly sixty years old. For almost five decades, a powerful early religious experience or vision and a sense of special purpose



Senior Breakfast, circa 1913.

had set the pattern of Angela Merici's life; it was a totally uncommon pattern for a woman of her times. This gathering of women, including some who were young and unmarried, some who were older and widowed, called itself the Company of St. Ursula, after a legendary figure of the medieval Church. The Company was the culmination of Angela Merici's life work as she understood God's purposes for her.

Angela and her twenty-eight companions had embarked upon a profoundly innovative enterprise. Though now voluntarily bound together as companions, they would continue to be active in the world, pursuing ministries of service to the sick and the poor, especially to children and young women. Their places of service would be in hospitals and orphanages, and out in the streets of the city. Although religious instruction was one part of their effort, their work in the beginning was mainly charitable, rather than educational.

The Company was emphatically not a religious order. There were no solemn vows. Instead, each woman made a simple promise to lead a virtuous life of poverty, chastity, and obedience. There was no habit. Instead, each woman wore simple, modest garb. And there was no cloister. Instead, the companions lived at home with their own or other families, or

(continued on page 4)



Mother General's visit, April 4, 1963.

Writing the History of The College of New Rochelle

(continued from page 3)

in small groups together. Still very much “in the world,” they came together daily for prayer and spiritual reflection, before beginning their work for the day.

Angela's Company

In the years just before her death, Angela Merici dictated her Primitive Rule which established the organization and guiding principles of her Company. This Rule set forth the characteristics that marked the community at its founding.

Historians and biographers have repeatedly noted the highly unusual nature of Angela's Company. Although a few similar examples exist in the early history of Christian Europe, her vision of an un-enclosed religious life for women dedicated to action in the world was distinctive and ground-breaking. The contemporary parallel most frequently cited by historians is the equally powerful vision of Ignatius Loyola for a company of men, the Jesuits.

After Saint Angela's death in 1540, her Company continued to grow in number and soon spread beyond Brescia, undergoing important changes as it expanded. Ursuline communities sprang up throughout Italy and France. Ursulines also spread to Germany, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, and then to many other places in Europe, North America, and around the world. Eventually the Ursulines in 1855 would arrive in the East Morrisania section of the Bronx; and then in 1873, on Henry Street in Manhattan; and ultimately in 1896, in New Rochelle.

The various modifications along the way substantially transformed at least the outward appearance of Angela's Company. Angela Merici's vision of how religious women might be active in the world remained too radical to be accepted fully by the society or the Church of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. No longer living in homes, working actively in the world to serve the sick and the poor, and joined

together as women in service by simple promises made to each other, the Ursulines by the early 1600s were within convent walls and bound by solemn vows. And the ministry of education to girls and young women was now the primary focus. But the fundamental sense of service remained. And the deeper values described by Angela Merici in her Rule and in her other short works, the Counsels and Legacy (or Testament) also endured.

Angela's achievements

Over five centuries, the revolutionary actions of Angela Merici led to a series of remarkable achievements by the women of her Company. Hers was “the first foundation of a religious community for women undertaken by a woman.” The Ursulines were apparently the first teaching

order of women, and they developed an enlightened and pioneering educational philosophy. It was an Ursuline, Marie Guyart, Marie de l'Incarnation, who was the first woman religious missionary in the New World (at Quebec). And it was the Ursulines who came to New Orleans in 1727 and established the first academy for women's education in the present United States. In the long run, they also achieved another first: the first Catholic women's college in New York State.

When did we begin?

Let me return to other larger questions that my history will address. When did the College really begin? Many other institutions trace their beginnings to the establishment of an academy or seminary that, strictly speaking, was only a secondary school, and on that basis they claim their starting date. This



CNR athletics, circa 1911.

matter of origins is one of the few cases where you want to be as old as possible. The College of New Rochelle has always been scrupulous about not doing this; we start neatly with our charter in 1904. By that calculation, we are about to begin our centennial celebration. But is it so? Have we been too honest?

In 1883 a normal course or normal school department was established at St. Teresa's Academy on Henry Street. (This was only two years after the Ursulines of the parish had become the separate Community of St. Teresa.) Within a few years, the Academy came under the leadership of Mother Irene Gill. The normal school offered extension courses to prepare young women for the teaching exams and requirements of the Board of Education of the City of New York, which were highly successful and were soon fully approved by the Board of Education for teacher training. In fact, St. Teresa's became the first Catholic high school in New York City to be accredited by the Board of Education, and the only Catholic academy where Board classes were held for the training of teachers. Both religious and lay teachers registered and took these courses which were given by college professors who came in the afternoons to teach. Note that certainly by the 1890s, these were clearly post-secondary or "collegiate" courses. Several letters, dating from the early twentieth century, written by graduates of these courses to Mother Ignatius Wallace, indicate that the year or two of study in the normal school course came after completion of senior year at the secondary level in the Academy. And one 1893 graduate of the normal school said in a letter that she later received a diploma in 1908 from the College of Saint Angela for work done in the normal school.

By the mid-1890s (if not earlier), the success and recognition of the normal school courses had persuaded Mother Irene of the need for a college in New York State for young Catholic women. In October of 1896, she wrote to Archbishop Michael Corrigan for permission to visit an unnamed normal school in New York City and Horace Mann Teacher's College. In her letter, perhaps characteristically, she simply declared: "I would like to visit these institutions." I think she already had clearly in mind the idea of a college.

A college? A secondary school?

In 1896, the Ursulines came to Locust Avenue in New Rochelle, and then in 1897 they purchased and moved into the Castle. In September of that year the "Ursuline Seminary," as it was called, first held classes in the Castle. A year later, in 1898, the Ursuline Seminary received a charter from the New York State Board of Regents. Included in the charter was the "power to conduct a collegiate department."

Now this is still somewhat ambiguous. At that time the line between academies or seminaries, at the secondary level, and colleges, at the post-secondary level, remained somewhat blurred. And did the power to conduct a collegiate department mean to offer post-secondary courses or simply to offer courses that prepared for college? I think that in the case of Mother Irene Gill and the Ursuline Seminary, given what had happened since the 1880s at St. Teresa's Academy, the working assumption was that the seminary would continue to offer post-secondary courses. So by 1898 at the latest, Mother Irene



Professor Ernest Thompson overseeing the work of his art students.

was not far from establishing a full-blown college. In 1904, she publicly announced her intention to do so, secured a charter, and in September opened the doors. It was clearly the rapid execution of a project planned and pushed ahead for some time. So I think we have been overly modest in our claims.

Every age a golden age

Let me conclude. At least one thing is very clear about the task of the historian: no one works alone. Many individuals have helped me tremendously in my research and thinking, and I want to take this opportunity to thank them once again.

I would like to leave you with one additional thought about The College of New Rochelle. I have learned in my research that there is no single year or time in its history that is the defining moment. There is no golden age. No era can claim to be the essential CNR. What time frame would you choose? The opening years, the 20s, the 30s, the 40s, the 50s, the 60s, the 70s, the 80s, the 90s? Each period exhibits its particular characteristics. Each of us is led to think that the years when we were here were the real ones. But we all need to remind ourselves that the story of The College of New Rochelle is broader than that. We are all part of a long history of sustained effort toward a remarkably enduring vision. The persistent mission of The College of New Rochelle in 1904 and today is perhaps the real heart of the story.

CALL TO *for the Class of 2003* ACTION



(l-r) Congressman John Lewis, Lowery Stokes Sims, Corinne Claiborne Boggs, President Stephen J. Sweeny, Eugene R. McGrath

On a cool, rainy morning in May, the Class of 2003 had their spirits lifted and dreams ignited by one of America's Civil Rights icons, U.S. Congressman John Lewis. As a young college student, Lewis joined Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a handful of other African-Americans in the historic campaign for civil rights for all Americans.

Forty years later, on the lawns of Maura, Congressman Lewis spoke from his heart and his own personal history as he told the graduating class of CNR to "dream dreams and make them real. Do not be content to sit in the stadium of life as observers." Close to 1,200 graduates heard their final lecture from a man who followed his own dreams to help change the face of America. "You must enter the arena as participants," Congressman Lewis instructed, "and do what you can to make our society a better place."

Congressman Lewis was one of four distinguished Americans to receive honorary degrees at The College of New Rochelle's 96th Annual Commencement Exercises, for his lifelong commitment to and resulting achievements in the Civil Rights Movement, as well as his dedication to valuing each human being and calling forth that value in others. Also

honored were Corinne Claiborne Boggs, former Congresswoman from Louisiana and United States Ambassador to the Vatican, for her strength and determination to succeed in a time and place that believed women could not, as well as her groundbreaking involvement in public service; Eugene R. McGrath, Chairman and CEO of the Consolidated Edison Company of New York, for his hands-on role as an advocate of education and for his leadership and generosity with Con Ed's services in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001; and Lowery Stokes Sims, Director of the Studio Museum of Harlem, which also serves as home to CNR's School of New Resources Rosa Parks Campus, for her commitment to promoting the excellence of new generations of African-American artists and for bringing attention to the importance of art in shaping and understanding human history.

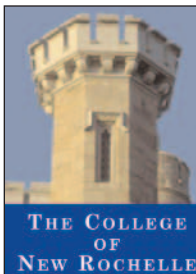
Graduates and guests looked on as CNR President Stephen J. Sweeny offered

his congratulations to the graduates as well as the honorary degree recipients. "These honorary degree candidates honor us by modeling the very values which have animated this College for almost 100 years," noted President Sweeny. "Because you carry a College of New Rochelle degree, we expect you to be women and men not only of educational and career success, but women and men of conscience and compassion."

The words of President Sweeny are especially relevant in today's troubled times, with the ongoing threat of terrorism and the recent war in Iraq. Congressman Lewis reinforced the message by stressing the opportunities the Class of 2003 will have to make this world a better place. "Forty years ago, another generation of students had a dream — a dream that we could end segregation in America... Because these students — because people like you — decided to act, we witnessed nothing less than a non-violent revolution under the rule of law. A revolution of values, a revolution of ideas. You have that same opportunity today. You can make a difference. You can change the world." He continued, "Look to your left. Look to your right. Look in the mirror, and you will see the answer to the problems that confront our nation — and the world. You will see the leaders of tomorrow. As leaders of tomorrow, I urge you to remember the lessons of yesterday." With their various degrees now in hand, the Class of 2003 has already demonstrated their dedication...all indications are that this group *will* remember and will make a clear difference as they move forward.

—Lisa Skelton





Introducing the George and Marge Svack Dyroff Scholarship Fund



*George and
Marge Dyroff
loved chemistry;
it was their
life passion!*

George & Marge Dyroff

After receiving her baccalaureate degree in chemistry from CNR in 1943, Marge pursued a career with Esso Research where she met George V. Dyroff. The compatible couple married in 1947. Their family grew to include two sons and four grandchildren. The usual school, parish and community volunteerism filled the "between" hours along with some substitute teaching and helping with SAGE (specifically helping the elderly maintain their "at home" independence).

Marge loved to travel with her husband. George was a retired naval officer and chemist for the Exxon Research and Engineering Company (formerly Esso) in Linden, New Jersey. His Edisonian ingenuity served him well in his assignments at Esso plants in South America, North Africa, and the Middle and Far East where chemists lacked the most basic laboratory supplies. He found simple, but not-so-obvious, solutions to problems posed by laboratory analysis. For example, he once used boiled potatoes to get starch for a gas analysis in the Libyan Desert! George passed away on February 25, 1998, leaving a legacy of excellence at work and devotion at home. We are so grateful to Marge for her generosity and vision in establishing this endowed scholarship for chemistry students. The Dyroff legacy lives on at CNR!

and the first Dyroff Scholar Tanaia Reid SAS '05

CNR sophomore Tanaia Reid is a praiseworthy student. She has seen great hardship in her young life – both her mother and grandmother had passed away by the time she was thirteen. After the death of her mother, the Brooklyn native moved to Long Island and today lives in Newburgh. Tanaia is no stranger to hard work, carrying a full-time course load along with part-time employment. She is also an Admissions Ambassador, representing CNR as a campus tour guide. Clearly, her life's challenges don't deter her! Tanaia is pursuing a medical career with a special interest in educating children about disease prevention. She is a chemistry major and biology minor, and she willingly makes herself available to assist faculty and students with their experiments in the nursing and chemistry labs. Our New Rochelle campus fits her needs – "You get spoiled," by the individualized attention and small class size, she says, but "they don't baby you." We salute you, Tanaia, as an adult with a most promising future, and the first College of New Rochelle recipient of the George and Marge Svack Dyroff Scholarship.



Tanaia Reid

Scholarship gifts of \$100,000 or more can be endowed and named for the donor or a loved one. The principal stays intact, earning interest each year. The interest is awarded to a student or students. An endowed scholarship is perpetual – an award that will affect the lives of future students forever. For more information on scholarships, please call Dr. Carole Weaver at 914-654-5914.

CNR Wisdom for life.
The College of New Rochelle



Renewing Friendships, Refreshing Spirits: Alumnae/i College 2003

The weather may have been dismal, but the hundreds of alumnae/i attending this June's Alumnae/i College refused to let anything rain on their parade, as reunioning classes ending in 3s and 8s gathered to reconnect and reminisce about their years on campus.

The festivities began on a breezy Friday evening with an old-fashioned, all-American barbecue and faculty reception on Maura Lawn.

As the jazz band played, alumnae/i took the opportunity to reacquaint themselves with favorite professors and chat with classmates, lingering late into the evening in the glow of friendship and candlelight. Saturday's Reunion Luncheon boasted two very special alumnae indeed: Julia Lawrence Willemin, celebrating her 75th reunion, attended with her son, Charles, and New York State Lieutenant Governor Mary O'Connor Donohue '68 (past Angela Merici Medal recipient), who took time from her whirlwind schedule to enjoy lunch with her classmates.

That night, the Class of '53 celebrated their Golden Anniversary with din-

ner in Leland Castle Parlors, while other classes happily braved a downpour to make their way to the Student Campus Center for Gala 2003, an evening of dining and dancing to a live orchestra.

Throughout the weekend, alumnae had the opportunity to nourish their minds as well as their bodies. Nearly 30 met early Saturday morning for the annual Fun Run/Walk around the Campus neighborhood and later joined classmates to hear lectures, tour the newly-renovated library, and visit gallery exhibits, including "Dark Rosaleen," works by Anne Therese Dillen, OSU '58 depicting the Great Hunger in Ireland.

Dr. James T. Schleifer, Dean of Gill Library, delivered this year's keynote address, "Writing a History of The College of New Rochelle: An Historian at Work," a lecture apropos and of great

interest as the College prepares to celebrate its Centennial (see article on page 2). Other lectures included "Ursulines Today and Tomorrow," by Martha Counihan, OSU '67, Gill Library Archivist, and Pascal Conforti, OSU '56, Chaplain, St. Clare's Hospital and Health Center in Manhattan; "Finding Our Voices: Past Tense, Future Tense," by Irene Mahoney, OSU '41, CNR Faculty Emeritus; and "A Look at Our 21st Century Library," by Mark Haber, Associate Professor, Gill Library, which included a guided tour.

As always, the farewells came all too soon as Reunion 2003 came to a close on Sunday morning. Though sad to leave their cherished campus, classmates waved good-bye knowing that they carry renewed friendships and refreshed spirits until they meet again.

—Irene Villaverde



Photos, clockwise from top:

President Sweeny (center) poses with this year's Angela Merici Medal winners: Patricia Keegan Abels SAS'73, Kathleen McCloskey Zanger SAS'78, Rose Scoca Leon '43, and Mary Beth Ball Hofstetter '63.

Dr. James T. Schleifer, Dean, Gill Library.

Elizabeth "Tish" Conway Mazzola SAS'88, Suzanne Rinaldi Crew SAS'88, and Rosemary Brown Merino SAS'88.

President Sweeny, Julia Lawrence Willemin '28, Charles Willemin.

Sr. Dorothy Ann Kelly '51 (center) reminisces with her former students from the Class of 1963: Sheila Coughlin O'Connor, Anna Mancino Ascione, Jolene Moritz Molitoris, and Barbara Runkle McNamara.

Congratulations to This Year's Awardees!

Angela Merici Medals

Rose Scoca Leon '43

Mary Beth Ball Hofstetter '63

Jean Shanaphy Barrow '68

Patricia Keegan Abels SAS'73

Kathleen McCloskey Zanger SAS'78

Ursula Laurus Citations

Joan Carson '43

Sarah O'Hagan Fisher '43

Catherine Glassing Farrell '43

Mary Baldwin Brady '48

Theresa Maher Harris '48

Nancy Finan Hogan '48

Jean Mulhern '48

Carol Holton Welk '48

Madeleine Barry Mitchell '53

Georgiana Donase White '58

Carol Zimmerman Difazio '63

Dorothy Jones Jessop '63

Marie Lombard McGraw '63

Noreen Deane Moran '63

Dale Tristany Davis Starenko '63

Joan Flynn Beesley '68

Kristin Krause McDonough '68

Maura McCauley O'Brien '68

Mary Creeden Risio '68

Mary Watson-Stribula '68

Noel Caraccio SAS'73

Mary Sue Murphy SAS'73

Mary Close-Oppenheimer SAS'73

Christianne Russo Ricchi SAS'73

Patricia Rosenkranz-Levins SAS'73

Bridget Foley SAS'78

Karen Ann Higgins Wuench SAS'78

Eileen Mooney Strange SAS'83

Jeannine Salone SAS'84

Marjorie McCausland Beyersdorf SAS'88

Christine Kozlowski McComas SAS'93

Kelley Allen SAS'98



A Global Meeting of the Minds

On April 24, CNR's Graduate School Division of Art and Communication Studies hosted "International Communication and Global Development," a conference on how recent trends are fostering heightened interdependence between countries and the resulting impact on global business and political relations. Dr. Basilio Monteiro (right), Division Head, facilitated the event, where keynote speaker Leonard R. Sussman, Senior Scholar in International Communications at Freedom House, was joined by an impressive panel of international business, policy, and education leaders, pictured above.

Technology as a Tool: CNR Launches ANGEL

This spring, the College launched ANGEL (A New Global Environment for Learning), a course management system designed to help faculty, staff, and students use Web resources to enhance course work and incorporate technology into the learning environment. Under the direction of Executive Vice President Dr. Ellen Curry Damato, the initiative was spearheaded by a technology team which included Emory Craig, Director of Academic Computing; Nancy Girling, Director of Information Systems; and Deryx Scott, Academic Web Developer, who began research in 2001. "Over 25 percent of colleges nationwide use course management systems," says Craig, "and the number of users doubled between 2000 and 2002." Simply stated, ANGEL is an on-line tool for communication and collaboration which allows faculty to manage and present course materials and communicate quickly and effectively with students. The system also provides a secure digital space where committees and groups can share documents in either public or member-only areas. At a recent workshop co-sponsored by the College Senate and Academic Computing Services, more than 40 participants filled two computer labs for "hands-on" instruction in the use of ANGEL's communication tools, including electronic drop boxes, spaces for group work, message boards for threaded discussion, and real-time-discussion chat rooms. "By utilizing those internet functions students are already familiar with, ANGEL creates an environment where technology is a tool," adds Craig.

Ursuline Students Unite to Create a Better World

As they arrived on CNR's Main Campus in jeans and T-shirts, backpacks slung over their shoulders, hair pulled back in bandanas, they looked like any other group of high school girls about to embark on a week-long vacation. But the 60 students from Ursuline schools in Dallas, New Rochelle, Wilmington, and St. Louis weren't in New York to see the sights or take in a Broadway show. They were here to make a difference, to touch others through community service as part of the Ursuline Order's global initiative, *Ursuline Schools Unite in Service: Our Call is Peace, Our Path is Justice*. Heading out each day from their "home base" at the College to service sites throughout Westchester and New York City, they delivered food and clothing to the homeless, packed boxes of computer supplies being shipped to Nicaragua, decorated baby bottles and T-shirts for the residents of a home for

pregnant teens, bagged food for a soup kitchen, and did yard work, cleaned, and painted at various churches and community centers.

The initiative began two years ago on the morning of September 11, 2001, when Ursuline Sisters from 40 countries were attending their annual Chapter Meeting in Rome trying to determine a "world focus" for all Ursuline schools and programs. As news of the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers reached them, the Sisters shared a common thought: All people must unite to create a better world. On that day, *Our Call is Peace, Our Path is Justice* was born.

"Thousands of young women throughout the U.S. and across the world have been educated with the Ursuline philosophy of *I will serve*," says Sister Marion Lynch, OSU, Director of External Relations for CNR, who worked closely with Dr. Pat Hensley, Principal of Ursuline Academy in St.



Louis and project facilitator. "Given the current events of the past two years, it is very heartening that so many young women today want to make a difference to people in need beyond their own communities, and we at the College were happy to host them."

—Irene Villaverde

Taking the Plunge: Seeing the Face of God

On the twelve-hour drive to Naugatuck, West Virginia, I kept thinking how privileged I was to accompany eight CNR students – Fiona Hibbert, Geisha Osborne, Jennifer Pinheiro, Myrcie Vilfranche, Sutarshia Johnson, Joan Lorrius, Tameika Vidal, and Chanthary Em – who gave up their spring vacation to complete a week of community service on the annual “Plunge Weekend,” which took place March 8-14. Srs. Gretchen Schaffer and Kathy O’Hagan met us at the foot of the mountain where a coal mine had just closed, putting over 400 families out of work. These pioneering women founded Big Laurel, a school for mountain children with no other chance to receive an education, almost thirty years ago in response to a 1976 pastoral letter by the Appalachian bishops, calling the faithful to live lives of service with the poor. The school evolved into, among other things, an adult learning center, food pantry, and retreat center, with an environmental center located just down the road.

Our CNR team helped with a variety of tasks, including rolling logs which served as a main fuel source down a hillside, gathering rocks to fill potholes on the mountain road, tutoring children at the local school, distributing food at the local pantry, and raking, gathering, and composting forest debris.

We also spent time with the natives who, although poor by economic standards, are rich in so many other ways; they have



Helen Wolf, Associate Director of Campus Ministry (kneeling, right), surrounded by the CNR student volunteers who made up this year’s “Plunge” team, as they get ready to embark on their adventure.

a deep sense of family and friendship, and uphold the standard to “love your neighbor” to its fullest extent. Visitors are warmly welcomed into their homes, and they thank the Lord each day that they live in the openness of God’s bountiful creation.

As with most service experiences, I received much more than I gave. I was given God’s warmth directly from the hearts of those beautiful people, and inspired by the work of Srs. Gretchen and Kathy. And I was surrounded by those phenomenal CNR women. Because of them, I don’t have to make that twelve-hour drive to see the face of God.

—Helen Wolf

STRAWFEST 2003!



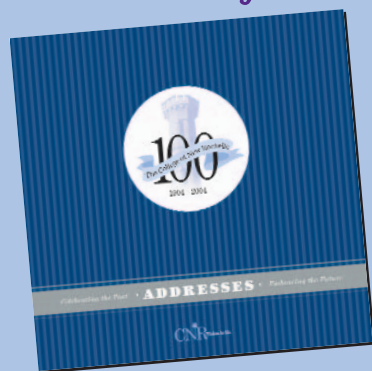
This spring, the College once again “spread the excitement” during “Spirit Jam,” CNR’s 31st annual Strawberry Festival. On May 4, hundreds of community members, students, faculty, staff, and alumnae/i enjoyed a sunny afternoon filled with fun, food, and music. Originated in the mid-west in the late 19th century, Strawberry Festivals celebrated the ripening of strawberries, the blooming of lilacs, and the coming of summer. Introduced to CNR in 1973, the Strawberry Festival is the single largest event organized entirely by the College’s undergraduates.

“TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY”

A SUCCESS

On April 24, the Main Campus had some very special visitors as more than 20 girls, aged three to 14, joined us to celebrate “Take Our Daughters to Work Day.” The girls participated in a number of activities planned especially for them. They toured the campus, worked in the television studio and the biology lab, had adventures in photography and in the Mac labs, went on a “Girl Power Internet Hunt,” discussed career preparation in our Career Development Center, and participated in a workshop in our Learning Center for Nursing. During lunch, the young visitors had an opportunity to chat with CNR student leaders about the College, classes, and campus life. All agreed that “Take Our Daughters to Work Day” was a very special event for the entire College Community. Same time next year?

Celebrate CNR's History!



The College of New Rochelle has created a colorful collection of archival and contemporary photographs that showcases 100 years of College history in a useful and attractive Centennial Address Book. Remember your college years with this unique souvenir address book!

To purchase a \$10 CNR Centennial Address Book today, please contact the Office of Communications at (914) 654-5291.

AND THE EMMY GOES TO...

Angela Cascarano SAS'00 was honored this past March for her work as part of a FOX 5 News team at the National Television Academy's 46th Annual New York Emmy Awards held in New York City. Ms. Cascarano, an associate producer, was recognized along with the rest of her team for an investigative journalism piece entitled "Fake Rabbi," which aired in April 2002. Her team pulled off a "sting" operation that resulted in the arrest of Jerry Heller, a former used car salesman who misrepresented himself as an ordained rabbi to thousands of couples who, until the segment aired, were unaware that their marriages were invalid. Due to the enormous response to this segment, the New York and New Jersey state legislatures recently passed bills to validate all marriages performed to date by Mr. Heller. Kudos to Ms. Cascarano and her team!



Members of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Alumnae/i Association gathered at the Pasadena Hunt Club in January 2003, joined by President Sweeny (top) and Vice President of College Advancement Brenna Sheenan Mayer (kneeling, right). All agreed it was a great outing!

Congratulations to Quarterly Managing Editor Lenore Boytim Carpinelli '89 and husband, Nick, on the birth of their daughter, Elisabeth Lenore. Elisabeth, who arrived on February 28, 2003, weighed in at 7 lbs., 6 1/2 oz. and measured 20 inches long. All the best from the CNR family to the Carpinellis!



SAVE THE DATE!

CNR'S 2ND ANNUAL GOLF & TENNIS OUTING

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Wykagyl Country Club
1195 North Avenue
New Rochelle, NY

10:00 am	Registration
10:30 am	Golf Clinic
11:00 am	Brunch
12:30 pm	Shotgun
5:30 pm	Dinner

For information or reservations,
please call:

Linda Grande at 914-654-5288

or

Angela Davis Farrish at 914-654-5241

Happy New Year... and... Happy Birthday, CNR!

No, it's *not* the end of December—there's no champagne, streamers or confetti—but July is the start of a new year for CNR's Annual Fund. And, it's also the year to celebrate CNR's 100th birthday!

Although the official celebrations recognizing the 100th anniversary of the College will begin September 12, starting now, you can give a “birthday present” to the College that will support CNR as it prepares for its next hundred years!

Unlike those presents that wind up in the attic or the back bedroom closet, your gift will be put to use right away at each of CNR's campuses, providing financial aid and scholarships or supporting the programs and activities that make CNR one of the best places for a liberal arts education in the greater New York area.

Contributing to the **Centennial Annual Fund** is a *once-in-a-lifetime* opportunity, so please help celebrate CNR's birthday and become a member of one of the gift clubs listed below. You will be giving the best present of all...the gift of education.

Century Club \$100	Chidwick Associates \$250	Founder's Society \$500	The President's Circle \$1,000
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The College of New Rochelle

Centennial Annual Fund

For more information on CNR's giving clubs or to check our link for matching gift companies, log on to www.cnr.edu and click “Gift Giving.” To make a contribution of securities or to use your credit card for a gift to the Centennial Annual Fund, please contact Marilyn Saulle, Director of Annual Giving, at (914) 654-5917. Thank you!



Do You Have Fond Memories of Your CNR Years to Share?

Whether you graduated from CNR 5, 10, 25, or even 50 or more years ago, we invite you to share your memories of your college years with us. During the College's centennial year, which will begin in September 2003, we will produce numerous publications commemorating the first 100 years of CNR, and who better to tell us what those years were like than the students who experienced them firsthand. So, send

your remembrances of the Daisy Chain, Swimphony, the Strawberry Festival, your favorite professor, your roommate, ELI, what it was like to attend CNR during the Depression, World War II, or the turbulent '60s, how CNR has made a difference in your life, or any other memory you'd like to share. We hope to receive many submissions, so we will have a wealth to choose from. Start sending your remembrances now.

*Remembrances may be sent by mail to CNR Remembrances, c/o Quarterly, Office of Communications,
29 Castle Place, New Rochelle, NY 10805 or by email to Lcarpinelli@cnr.edu.*

Be sure to include your full name (first, maiden, and last), your school, class year, and a contact number in case we have questions.



The College of New Rochelle

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